

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM
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6 December 2004

Dear Mr. Laytham:

During its meeting of 18 November 2004, the Commission reviewed the proposed concept (S.L. 04-115) for alterations to the storefront at 675 15th Street, NW. The obstruction of three large storefront windows and a double door entrance does not enhance the adjacent streetscape and is detrimental to the pedestrian experience. The Commission is aware of the limitations created by the completed kitchen and the shallow space behind the windows. However, the Commission strongly recommends engaging a glass artist to create a site-specific work to be installed in these windows, rather than the simple application of historic photographs to the existing window. This has the potential to correct an unfortunate condition and to enhance the streetscape with art.

The Commission looks forward to further review of this project and recommends submission of a revised concept which responds to the concerns expressed. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, the 25th of January 2005, with a submission deadline on the 6th of January. As always, the staff is available should you require guidance.

Sincerely,



Frederick J. Lindstrom
Acting Secretary

Mr. John Laytham
President
Clydes Restaurant Group
3236 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007

cc: Mike Orling, Rust, Orling and Neale Architects